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the interpretation of judicial decisions and the doctrine of precedents. Mr. Black, in the seventeenth chapter, makes a brief examination of the nature of dicta and the reasons for their lack of authority. His chapter on the Force of Precedents is especially well considered.

The arrangement of this treatise is good. The cases are as well selected and as accurately cited as can be done in text-books. The work is well written. The typography speaks for itself, with the exception that the breadth of the printed page is too great. The index may also be criticised for not being what it should be, although it is far better than that contained in most text-books.

George Henderson.

THE PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW. By T. J. LAWRENCE, M.A., LL.D., Rector of Girton, and Lecturer in Downing College; Lately University Extension Professor of History and International Law in the University of Chicago, etc., etc. Boston: D. C. Heath & Co. 1895.

There is cause for congratulation that Dr. Lawrence, whose essays have been so helpful to students of International Law, has found the opportunity to issue this timely book. A clear, concise, accurate, readable, and up-to-date treatise has been needed, and this volume possesses these characteristics to a marked degree. The subject is dealt with so as to show on the one hand its relation to ethical principles and on the other its dependence on the facts of history. Of course a book of less than six hundred and fifty pages cannot treat so large and complex a subject at all exhaustively; nevertheless, a surprising amount of information has been crowded into this compass. Where further investigation on particular points is desired, the references in the foot-notes will doubtless be found of assistance.

In spite of all the praise due to this admirable book, it is not perhaps wholly satisfactory from an American point of view. Anglo-American affairs might, even where concise treatment is aimed at, be considered at greater length, and so as to leave a little different impression. For instance, speaking of the Fisheries Treaty of 1888, which aroused so much discussion, the author mentioning its rejection by our Senate, states merely that it contained a "minute and accurate delimitation of the bays within which the inhabitants of the United States were forbidden to fish by the treaty of 1818, and an equally elaborate description of the privileges and duties of American fishing vessels in Canadian ports and The purpose of this treaty was, indeed, to remove causes of misunderstanding with respect to the treaty of 1818, but it is more than doubtful whether it would have been successful in that direction. Its provisions were stated in such ambiguous terms that its satisfactory interpretation would have been extremely difficult, especially in view of the varying construction put by Canada and the United States on the Treaty of 1818. Moreover, it made

no provision against the annoyance arising from the practice of subjection of treaty rights to local laws, and it either did not confirm or abrogated our ancient rights, so that its rejection was supported by the sentiment of the country. But on the whole, Dr. Lawrence justifies the assertion made in connection with the dedication of the book to his American pupils, that it is written by "one who, were he not an Englishman would ask no better fate than to be an American."

The arrangement of the book is excellent. It is divided into four parts, the first treating of the nature and history of International Law, the others setting forth the rules observed among states during peace, war and neutrality. Among the many interesting subjects thoughtfully and agreeably discussed, special mention may be given to the comparison of the position of Great Powers of Europe and the United States of America in their primacy in the two continents respectively, and to the sections on Peace and the Means of Preserving Peace, in which the author pleads strongly for arbitration as the most hopeful remedy for war. The index, containing an analysis of the subject matter, is an unusually good piece of work.

W. C. D., Jr.

## BOOKS RECEIVED.

[Acknowledgment will be made, under this title, of all books received, and reviews will be given, as near as possible, in the order of their receipt. Those, however, marked \* will not be reviewed. Books should be sent to the Editor-in-Chief, Department of Law, University of Pennsylvania, Sixth and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia, Pa.]

## TREATISES.

- THE DETECTIVE FACULTY. By W. H. BAILEY, Sr., LL.D. Cincinnati: The Robert Clarke Co. 1896.
- A TREATISE ON THE LAW OF EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ACTS. By CONRAD RENO, LL.B. Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 1896.
- HALLECK'S INTERNATIONAL LAW. Two Volumes. Third Edition. Thoroughly Revised and in Many Parts Rewritten. By SIR SHERSTON BAKER, Bart. London: Kegan, Paul, French, Trübner & Co., Ltd. 1893.
- AN EXAMINATION OF THE NATURE OF THE STATE. A STUDY IN POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY. By WESTEL WOODBURY WILLOUGHBY, Ph.D., of Johns Hopkins University. New York and London: Macmillan & Co. 1896.
- THE WORKS OF JAMES WILSON, ASSOCIATE JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES AND PROFESSOR OF LAW IN THE COLLEGE OF PHILADELPHIA. By JAMES DEWITT ANDREWS. Two Volumes. Chicago: Callaghan & Co. 1896.